**Anthony Mathai**

2 months ago

David Hurlbut Engineering Podcast

I listened to the David Hurlbut podcast, mostly because it is late and I saw not many people did it, and also it talks about the business side of engineering rather than the college side. This podcast tells a story between a manager of an electrical design firm and his experiences within his workforce. He talks about business with third parties as well and the risk and compliance aspect of designing their own hardware as opposed to buying it from a third party. What I wanted to focus on was the writing, which heavily lies in the communication. For example, getting approvals in component requests, testing, ticketing, and getting involved with the risk-and-compliance and project management side of engineering. He tells us of some inevitable obstacles in his path, like getting criticisms when writing proposals and getting criticism in being more efficient in sending documents and making sure the workflow is up-to-date. All of these are involved in his podcast, and all of these require the right forms of writing and formality and structure in order to succeed in this workplace. Before, writing for engineering was restricted to just writing emails, but it is so much more and it varies with what position you take in the workplace. For example, someone within project management, risk-and-compliance, or a contractor would probably have to do more email writing than someone who works directly with the warehouse.

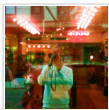
Technical writing is especially important in the conversations because it gives a basis for what the proper writing etiquette will be in the workplace, and it will be an easy transition when one is able to find an internship within the engineering field they are pursuing. In regards to the lab report, the formality of the writing was no surprise, but the amount of times you may need to send a proposal (similar to an abstract) or some data (similar to the results of a lab report) was a lot more than I expected, and I think the lab report gave me a good taste of what to expect from this end.

[Reply](#)**Jonathan Rodriguez**

2 months ago

RE: David Hurlbut Engineering Podcast

Interesting that you chose the Hurlbut podcast because not many people did it. I myself avoided it because it was the longest of the three. Hurlbut talking about designing hardware and buying from a third party seems irrelevant as it wasn't about writing. I'm guessing there was a lot of filler in the podcast with not much focus on writing as my podcast was somewhat the same format. Hurlbut showing how someone would need formality and structure in order to succeed in the workplace seems to be the focal point in the writing in engineering. Unlike the other two podcasts, it seems this podcast focused more on the formal aspect of writing in engineering while the other two focuses on real world applications in writing.

**Michael Romashov**

2 months ago

RE: David Hurlbut Engineering Podcast

Hey Anthony,

First thing that stood out to me in your response was how similar the David Hurlbut and Elijah Jones podcasts were. Jones was also involved in electrical design and talked about much of the same issues in communicating with the business side of the industry. He also mentioned the same historical paradigm of writing emails to communicate, and the gradual transition to more specialized mediums. For a second, I actually thought this might have been the same podcast but you or I put the wrong name, but surely enough they are two distinct podcasts. I definitely agree with your thoughts on the lab report, and you definitely do see proposals that follow a similar structure to the abstract.

- Mike

**Rahil Ahmed**

2 months ago

RE: David Hurlbut Engineering Podcast

Thank you for sharing your thoughts on the David Hurlbut podcast Anthony. It's interesting that you were drawn to the business side of engineering and the communication involved in managing a workforce and working with third parties. It's true that effective technical writing is crucial in many aspects of engineering, such as getting approvals for component requests, testing, and project management. It's also important to maintain proper formality and structure in writing in order to succeed in the workplace. You mentioned that technical writing gives a basis for proper writing etiquette in the workplace, and I agree that it can be an easy transition for those pursuing internships in the engineering field. It's also interesting that the podcast highlighted the frequency of proposals and data sharing in the workplace, which gave you a good taste of what to expect from lab reports.

 **Julia Golovina**

2 months ago



RE: David Hurlbut Engineering Podcast

Hi Anthony,

I thought that it was interesting that you mentioned the "business side of engineering". This reminded me of my own interest in engineering management, which is arguably the most business-like engineering field. CCNY doesn't offer this or something similar, however, it's always interesting to hear about less common engineering specialities. Your point about emails stood out to me because emails are probably very overlooked even though for many people, they take up a majority of their workday. Casual communication, beyond a lab report for other engineers or a summary in layman terms, is something that also needs to be mastered in order to be effective. The idea that you mentioned about having to send multiple lab reports caught my attention because I often consider a lab report to be final. However, upon more consideration, having to create multiple versions with improvements is both likely and optimal for better results.

Julia